



Maryland

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF CRIME PREVENTION, YOUTH, AND VICTIM SERVICES

Survivors of Homicide Grant Program FY 2020 Annual Report

CP § 11-1006(g); EX ORD 01.01.2020.02/Ch. 11, 2020

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MSAR #12659
October 1, 2020

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Introduction

Chapter 223 of 2014 (House Bill 355), *Criminal Procedure - Programs for Survivors of Homicide Victims*, required the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services (Office¹) to create the Survivors of Homicide Grant program to help establish and expand statewide programs for survivors of homicide victims in all parts of the State of Maryland.² Pursuant to this Act, the programs shall: (1) serve survivors of homicide victims in all parts of the State; (2) provide or facilitate referrals to appropriate counseling, legal, mental health, and advocacy services for survivors of homicide victims including specialized support services to adult and minor survivors of homicide victims; and (3) provide a toll-free telephone number and assistance to exercise the rights to which the survivors are entitled by law.³ In addition, and in accordance with § 11-1006(d) of the Criminal Procedure Article, the Office shall administer grant awards to public or private non-profit organizations to operate programs for survivors of homicide victims.⁴ Money for such programs shall be provided in the annual State budget and shall be used to supplement, but not supplant, money that the programs receive from other sources.⁵ The Act also requires the Office to consult, collaborate with, and consider the recommendations of service providers to survivors of homicide victims regarding programs, policies, practices, and procedures that impact survivors of homicide victims.⁶ Furthermore, the Act shall take effect July 1, 2014. Moreover, and pursuant to § 11-1006(g) of the Criminal Procedure Article, the Office shall submit an annual report to the General Assembly as it relates to the programs for survivors of homicide victims.⁷

Chapter 58 of 2015 (House Bill 67), *General Assembly - Mandated Reports by State Agencies*, clarified that the annual report shall be submitted on or before October 1 each year.⁸ Pursuant to this revision, § 11-1006(g) of the Criminal Procedure Article requires the Office to submit a report to the General Assembly by October 1 each year as it relates to programs for survivors of homicide victims.

¹ Maryland General Assembly. (2020). [Chapter 11, Acts of 2020](#). In March 2020, the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention was renamed the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services.

² Maryland General Assembly. (2014). [Chapter 223 \(House Bill 355\), Criminal Procedure - Programs for Survivors of Homicide Victims](#).

³ Ibid.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Maryland General Assembly. (2015). [Chapter 58 \(House Bill 67\), General Assembly - Mandated Reports by State Agencies](#).

Survivors of Homicide Grant

Pursuant to Chapter 223 of 2014, the Office established the Survivors of Homicide Grant (SOHG) program which serves as a grant funding source, through the State’s annual budget, and is administered by the Office. Through its program, funds are available to public or private non-profit organizations (“subrecipients”) to operate programs for survivors of homicide victims.

The primary purpose of this program is to establish and expand programs to address the specific needs of survivors of homicide victims. Funds are used to assist subrecipients in providing victim assistance, advocacy, support, and other coordinated justice system responses, and to ensure survivors of homicide victims are able to exercise their rights entitled by law.

Awarded funds help subrecipients provide comprehensive services to meet the specific needs of survivors of homicide in ways not otherwise covered by the Maryland Criminal Injuries Compensation Board (CICB). These services include, but are not limited to, providing or facilitating referrals to appropriate counseling, legal, mental health, and advocacy services for survivors of homicide victims including specialized support services to adult and minor survivors of homicide victims; and providing a toll-free telephone number and assistance to exercise the rights to which the survivors are entitled by law.

Grant Awards

In FY 2020, the annual State budget provided \$500,000 in general funds for the SOHG program. Through this program, the Office made funding available to state and local government agencies, as well as non-profit, non-governmental victim services programs to include faith-based and community organizations. In FY 2020, the Office awarded the following SOHG programs to assist subrecipients in providing victim assistance, advocacy, support, and other coordinated justice system responses, and to ensure survivors of homicide victims were able to exercise their rights entitled by law (*as illustrated below and on the following pages*).

Award	Award Amount	Project Title	Implementing Organization	Jurisdiction	Project Summary
SOHG-2020-0001	\$63,661	Victim Services Specialist	Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) - Maryland, State Office	Statewide	<p>The program assists in developing and implementing strategies specifically intended to provide assistance to survivors of homicide victims in the State of Maryland. The program provides direct support services to victims who have been affected by the sudden violent death and/or injury of a loved one caused by an impaired driving crash.</p> <p>The program offers comprehensive services consisting of a detailed assessment of the victims needs, empathetic listening and emotional support, referral services, opportunity to participate in the criminal justice process; and support information for</p>

					the family members who are directly affected as requested by the victim. Program funds provide personnel support.
SOHG-2020-0002	\$125,000	Statewide Survivor Network Coordination and Collaboration	Maryland Crime Victims' Resource Center, Inc.	Statewide	The program coordinates the work of the Statewide Survivor Network (SSN) which provides a toll-free contact line and online intake access for family members of homicide victims. It also facilitates the requisite communication and coordination to ensure that family members in need receive counseling, legal, mental health, and advocacy services and other related issues as appropriate. Program funds provide personnel support for the collaboration of services facilitated by the SSN, and direct services provided by the Maryland Crime Victims' Resource Center, Inc.
SOHG-2020-0003	\$123,586	Survivors of Homicide Restoration Services	Generations Family Services, Inc.	Baltimore City	The program assists in developing and implementing strategies specifically intended to provide assistance to survivors of homicide victims. Through the Generations Family Services, Inc., which is a trauma-informed behavioral health counseling service, the program provides grief counseling services, information and referrals, and service coordination to survivors of homicide due to the death of a loved one by homicide. The program also targets survivors of homicide victims residing within the Northwestern, Western, and Northern police districts. Program funds support staffing and operating costs.
SOHG-2020-0004	\$62,754	Expanding Access to Counseling for Survivors of Homicide	Pro Bono Counseling Project, Inc.	Baltimore County	The program helps reduce existing gaps in services and fosters collaboration and cooperation among partner agencies and stakeholders. The program matches survivors of homicide to licensed mental health providers who volunteer their time. In addition to counseling services, clients are linked to appropriate referrals and other resources. Program funds support personnel, operating expenses, and training for providers on counseling survivors of homicide.
SOHG-2020-0005	\$124,999	Multi-site Homicide Transformation Project	Roberta's House, Inc.	Baltimore City, Baltimore County, and Prince George's County	The program assists in developing and implementing strategies specifically intended to provide assistance to survivors of homicide victims in Baltimore City, Baltimore County, and Prince George's County. The program assists homicide survivors in healthy and adaptive coping strategies and promotes healing through peer support and the sharing of the experience of traumatic loss. The program aims to expand services to homicide survivors from communities that are most affected by homicides. Program funds provide personnel and contractual services.
Total	\$500,000				